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IC 75-2552
20 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence Community

SUBJECT: Background for NSCIC Working Group Meeting,
22 October 1975

1. Agenda and revised minutes for approval.

2. Substantive briefing by NIO/ME on Efforts by Community to Improve Product since October War. [REDACTED] to brief; [REDACTED] also present. Special reference to:

NIAM 35/36-2-75
SNIE 30-1-75
Intelligence Alert Memo on Egypt
OPR Research Paper on Arab World in 1980s

NIO has been in contact with Amb. Ellsworth on study of Arab-Israeli Military Balance in the '80s.

3. TRs for NSCIC Working Group for approval

Draft TRs
D/DCI/IC letter to General Scowcroft

4. Report on Intelligence Evaluation Project. Ober to brief. DOD resisting this examination of current intelligence products. DOD wants to cover other Community activities. D/DCI/IC should wish Godspeed to the experiment.

5. Discussion of Guide to Community's Products

Advance copies of printed version have been distributed to Working Group members. They have been requested to offer you immediate guidance on distribution at this meeting, but to direct specific comments (if any) to C/PRD.

General Scowcroft has been briefed that Amb. Ellsworth liked the draft Guide, but that some within his staff (Cordeman) wanted much more.

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6. Old/New Business

D/DCI/IC to note that Objectives, Perspectives, and KIQs have been distributed to Working Group members for information. All comments--NSC Staff's and others'--on the draft version were considered in preparing the final versions.

25X1A9 D/DCI/IC to report that, on subject of expressing uncertainties, the new NIE 11-3/8 reflects considerable improvement along that line. It drew on an IC Staff paper on technical uncertainties. Also, D/DCI/IC asked the DDI to have a study undertaken in OPR, and work is under way. Meanwhile, OPR calls attention to two pertinent articles in Studies in Intelligence, one by [REDACTED] and to OPR's recently published Handbook of Bayesian Analysis for Intelligence. We will distribute these materials to Working Group members on request. D/DCI/IC should promise to keep at the problem, but warn the Working Group that there will never be a single, perfect key to fit all types of intelligence products. (Cordesman has raised this problem again.)

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D/DCI/IC should note that the Intelligence Alert Memoranda Study approved by USIB will be circulated to Working Group members for their information, in the near future. Mr. Morell has in fact urged this. (The study may be back from the printers in time for me to distribute copies at the meeting.)

D/DCI/IC may wish to propose distributing a CIA/OPR paper on Chinese Politics and the Sino-Soviet Triangle plus a DIA/DE memorandum on Soviet Support for Wars of Liberation to the Group for comments on these innovative studies. Authors of each study are willing to brief the Group whenever desired.

If Amb. Ellsworth or Adm. Rectanus raise the subject of a bibliography of national intelligence products, D/DCI/IC should report that in response to letters from Mr. Cordesman of 21 May and 3 October 1975 the matter has been raised twice with the NIOs, who have now agreed at least to list all national estimative papers published in 1975 as part of their next quarterly report and they will revise this list each quarter. (This is essentially a DOD dissemination problem, and we have sent the Cordesman correspondence to the DIA USIB Library. Librarians there are upset that Cordesman made an "end run" on what they consider their problem.)

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Distribution:

Original - Addressee

1 - NSCIC WG file

1 - AB Subject

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